Daily Report

Latin America

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Cuba

Next Round of 4-Way Talks on Africa Announced

FL1908010088 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 19 Aug 88

[Text] The fifth round of quadripartite negotiations on southwestern Africa will be held in Brazzaville, the Congolese capital, from 24 to 26 August. Cuba, Angola, and South Africa, and the United States acting as mediator, will attend the talks, which began in London in May. The talks are aimed at finding a peaceful solution to the conflict in southwestern Africa. A 14-point agreement has already been announced. It includes the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution No 435. Implementation of the document, calling for Namibia's independence, should begin before 1 November.

Solution 'Closer Than Ever'

PA1908034788 Havana International Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 18 Aug 88

[Report by correspondent Alberto Martinez from Luanda]

[Text] Greetings, friends. The Angolan people have gladly approved the decision to hold the next round of quadripartite negotiations for the search for peace in southwestern Africa in Brazzaville, the Congo. That meeting, which will be held 24-26 August, is considered to be very important for the fulfillment and progress of the agreements signed in Geneva early this month. For the first time, the Angolan, Cuban, and South African representatives—with U.S. mediation—will sit at the negotiating table with the certainty that hostilities have ceased in southern Angola.

A meeting of military representatives of all the parties involved, held in the Angolan city of Ruacana near the Namibian border, preceded the Brazzaville round of talks. That meeting proved the interests that all the parties involved have in the achievement of peace in southern Angola, which only a few months ago was the site of bloody clashes in which the Pretoria forces and its followers experienced serious military setbacks.

The parties involved will make another step toward the fulfillment of the Geneva agreements at the meeting in Brazzaville. The agreements signed in Geneva include the implementation of Resolution No 435 for the independence of Namibia and security for the People's Republic of Angola.

A solution to the conflict in southwestern Africa is now closer than ever. The peoples of that region are demanding peace and have defended and gained it with words and weapons.

Apartheid had to yield. It found an unexpected barrier in Angola: the Angolan people's patriotism and the Cubans' international work.

If good sense and flexibility prevail at the meeting in Brazzaville, we will be on the verge of achieving the true peace the people of southwestern Africa are demanding.

Risquet Meets With Congolese President

FL1808140688 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 18 Aug 88

[Text] A Cuban delegation has ended its visit to Brazzaville with a warm and fraternal conversation with Congolese President Denis Sassou-Nguesso. The delegation attended the 25th anniversary of the 3 glorious day revolution in the African country.

Jorge Risquet Valdes, member of the PCC Central Committee Politburo, headed the official delegation from the party and Government of Cuba. During the meeting, Nguesso and Risquet discussed matters related to the cooperation between the People's Republic of the Congo and Cuba. They also extensively analyzed matters dealing with the ongoing negotiations for a peaceful solution to the conflict in southwest Africa.

Red Cross Gives Release Date of POW in Somalia

FL1908012088 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 19 Aug 88

[Text] The International Red Cross Committee confirmed today that Orlando Cardoso Villavicencio, Cuban prisoner of war, is about to be released. Cardoso Villavicencio has been in prison in Somalia for more than 10 years. According to a Red Cross spokesperson, the Cuban internationalist will be released on 23 August as part of a prisoner exchange between Ethiopia and Somalia under the auspices of the Red Cross. Cardoso Villavicencio will be turned over to the humanitarian organization in Ethiopian territory after having stayed in various Somali prisons. Red Cross delegates who have visited the Cuban prisoner in his cell confirmed his poor health but say his morale has always been high and that he never doubted the efforts made by the Cuban authorities to obtain his release.

Mourning Period Set for Pakistan's Ziaul Haq

FL1908121188 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 19 Aug 88

[Text] The Council of State of the Republic of Cuba, using the powers conferred upon it, has declared 3 days of official mourning for the death of the most excellent General Mohammed Ziaul Haq, president of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan.

For this reason, the national colors will be flown at half-mast on public buildings and military establishments from 19 to 21 August.

Official Comments on L.A. Parliament Meeting

FL1908031088 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2344 GMT 19 Aug 88

[Interview with Ramon Pez Ferro, chief of the International Relations Department of the National Assembly of the People's Government (ANPP), by Gisela Bel Heredia at the ANPP offices in Havana—live]

[Text] [Bel] The 12th general assembly of the Latin American Parliament will be held in Buenos Aires, Argentina from 2? to 27 August. Pez Ferro will head the Cuban delegation attending the assembly. Pez Ferro, we would like to know what topics the members of the parliamentary meeting will discuss this time.

[Pez Ferro] Yes, Comrade, gladly. First of all, I believe that the most important point that needs to be highlighted is the election of the leadership of the Latin American Parliament. This will include the election of a new president, vice presidents, secretary general, and the new seat of the five permanent commissions of the regional organization. Also, the meeting will be divided into commissions to discuss matters such as the foreign debt, the Central American situation, drug trafficking, and protection of the environment in Latin America.

[Bel] One last question, Comrade Pez Ferro. During the last few days, we have seen expressions of wishes for Latin American unity during our commander in chief's visit to Ecuador for the transfer of power. Do you believe that the 12th general assembly of the Latin American Parliament could reflect those wishes of Latin American unity we are noticing in our countries at this time?

[Pez Ferro] Yes, comrade. You have asked a very important question which gives me the chance to tell you that the Latin American Parliament meeting itself will be an expression of this unity because it is going to be the first meeting of the Latin American Parliament as an official body. A treaty to make official the Latin American Parliament was recently approved. It has already been confirmed by numerous Latin American governments. In this way, the parliament enters a new stage, with much more authority, with much more power. The parliament treaty expresses in a very clear and definite way the Latin American unity as a principle. The statutes have very clear expressions of anti-imperialism and oppose all types of foreign intervention in our peoples' domestic affairs. In sum, I believe that this meeting will undoubtedly be an opportunity for Latin American nations to express once more the decision of all the countries to favor their unity, integration, and the interests of our peoples.

R. Castro Tours Economic Projects in Camaguey

FL1808150988 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1403 GMT 18 Aug 88

[Text] Last-minute report: Army General Raul Castro, second secretary of the PCC Central Committee, has made a brief visit to Camaguey, during which he visited areas of economic interest. The FAR minister, accompanied by Lazaro Vazquez Garcia, alternate member of the PCC Politburo and first party secretary in Camaguey, visited the special installations of the No 7 Supply and Transportation Enterprise of the Micons [Construction Ministry]. The second secretary of the PCC was able to observe here how provisional facilities are used to create a center that manufactures products complementing the construction of economic and social projects.

The FAR minister also observed completed dairy and calf-weaning centers in Camaguey. In addition, he toured other projects, some of which are ready for use in agriculture, while others are still under construction.

CDR Honors Interior Ministry Special Troops

FL1808181188 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 18 Aug 88

[Text] The banner of honor 28 September which is awarded by the national directorate of the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution [CDR] was given today to a directorate of the Ministry of the Interior [Minint] on the occasion of the upcomming 25th anniversary of its foundation.

The high award was given to the national Special Operations Directorate of the Ministry of the Interior by Armando Acosta Cordero, national CDR coordinator, during a solemn ceremony held today in our capital. Cordero said during his speech: You deserve this award because throughout a quarter of a century you have been defending the conquests of our revolution and of proletarian internationalism. He also awarded the 28 September medal to special troop combatants who have carried out a meritorious task as regular CDR members. Finally, a group of special troops combatants were promoted to the ranks of non-commissioned officers and sergeants for having successfully accomplished their missions.

Brigadier General Alejandro Ronda Marrero, director of the Special Operations Directorate, and other Minint officials were also present.

[Begin recording] [Acosta Cordero] For us, the national directorate of the CDR, the tasks and missions carried out by these special forces, the historical (?reasons) that the commander in chief had for creating them, and the role they have played throughout the whole revolutionary process, are very clear. It is easy to say 25 years. It is said briefly—25 years. A quarter of a century serving the fatherland, serving the cause of the working class and of the nation, serving the cause of socialism, builiding communism.

CECE Director Discusses Economic Projects

FL1808015588 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 11 Aug 88

[Interview with Ernesto Melendez, minister president of the State Committee for Economic Cooperation (CECE), by host Daniel Torres and correspondent Felix Fernando Garrido on the "Exclusivo" program—live]

[Text] [Garrido] First of all, Comrade Melendez, I would like for you to give the "Exclusivo" program listeners an overiew of the work carried out over the years by the organization you head.

[Melendez] As the name implies, the main work of the CECE is to look after, control, and coordinate economic and technical cooperation agreements with all the countries of the world. Through them, Cuba not only benefits by lines of credit but they also make possible the financing of supplies and cover travel expenses of foreign specialists who come to Cuba as consultants and participate in investment programs in the country, as well as training of national cadres in various countries. At the same time, Cuba provides cooperation to the countries of the so-called Third World—the underdeveloped countries. In general, this is the work we do. All this is linked to the social and economic development program of the country.

[Garrido] Comrade Melendez, as our people know, the world economic stituation not only directly affects our country, but those countries with which, in one way or another, we maintain relations. How does the CECE, in its current role, plans to solve these economic limitations?

[Melendez] To explain this, we would have to divide the countries. Our people know very well that our ties with socialist countries are governed by means, procedures, and principles, and are different from the ties we have with other countries of the world. These relations are planned for medium- and long-range terms. They benefit from preferential treatment. Tnis is especially true in our trade, in credits given to Cuba to cover investments and in the acquisition of material means and resources. Through these ties we also receive technical assistance, technology, and information.

We must make this differentiation because there is another part of the world, the capitalist area, in which Cuba also maintains extensive ties. They are affected or limited due to the world economic crisis and, especially, by our bilateral relations with some of these countries.

We must also point out the differences in our relations with the so-called Third World. We have established mutually beneficial ties. The world economic crisis limits our financing possibilities in the capitalist area. This is an important part of our work at this time. We must try to maintain our bilateral ties through relations with those countries' governments and enterprise sectors, despite the economic dificulties.

[Garrido] Mr Melendez, the people use the urban and inter-provincial bus system quite a lot. What is the status of the CECE agreements regarding the development of this important area?

[Melendez] We have governmental agreements that have been in effect for many years. I would say that almost since the triumph of the revolution this has been a great concern and has also been a sector given permanent priority. I would like to refer not only to the work that has been carried out in the area of urban transportation and among provinces, but also to large investments made by the country in railroads, ports, airports, and roads. It was announced recently that we have already begun studies to build a metro system in Havana. Without a doubt, this project requires large investments. It also requires great efforts, all kinds of resources, to make it a reality. We must also note that in the past 20 to 30 years the population of the country has practically doubled. This has also happened in Havana.

Answering your question about urban and inter-provincial transportation, we have agreements, in particular with socialist countries such as Hungary, for the supply of equipment to assemble Ikarus buses in Cuba, single and articulated omnibuses. In 1988 we heard of the criticism made by our commander in chief regarding production delays and the measures that are being implemented. We also have agreements with Hungary by which a large amount of equipment for urban models is going to be supplied in 1989. Some 350 pieces of equipment, approximately 30 articulated models, and another 250 models of other types of land vehicles will be received.

This should solve part of the problem. But of course, what is produced in 1988 and 1989 is aimed at solving some of the critical problems we have in Havana. We also signed an agreement with Spain recently that will make it possible to assemble inter-provincial buses in Cuba. This will make up for shortages involving this type of transportation in the country.

[Torres] Excuse me, Minister, our time is limited because of a baseball game to be broadcast today. I did not want to end this interview without asking you a very current question. We only have 5 more minutes on the air, and I wanted to take this opportunity because I know you are going to sign tomorrow a UN Development Program bill on aid in response to the damage caused by the rains in July. I would like you to briefly touch on this UN aid.

[Melendez] Indeed, tomorrow morning we will sign with UN representatives in Havana a document for a contribution from the World Food Program to compensate in some way for the serious losses we experienced due to the floods. It consists of a donation of grain, vegetable oil, and wheat flour for bread. The aid is valued at over half a million dollars.

Bahamas

Attorney General Comments on Legal Aid Treaty

FL1808200788 Nassau Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 18 Aug 88

[Text] The attorney general, the Honorable Paul Adderley, called it distressing and disturbing that the United States Senate has not put a sufficiently high priority on ratification of the mutual legal assistance treaty between the United States and the Bahamas. It is now 1 year since both countries signed the treaty.

According to Mr Adderley, there is word that the American lawmakers may not be considering it until the 1989 session. He says the Bahamas has done everything to impress upon the United States Government the importance of the treaty.

Dominican Republic

Correction to Bosch on Uniting Trade Unions

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Bosch on Uniting Trade Unions Into One Group," published in the 15 August issue of the Latin America DAILY REPORT, page 3, column two:

Make sourceline of item read: Santo Domingo Cadena de Noticias in Spanish... (changing sourceline)

Haiti

Namphy Addresses Industrial Commission

FL1808203988 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 1300 GMT 18 Aug 88

[Text] Lieutenant General Henri Namphy, head of the military government, held a meeting yesterday afternoon in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry's conference room with high-ranking ministry officials and with the members of the Joint Consultative Commission for Industrial Development. Colonel Eric Brunel Lamour, minister of commerce and industry, introduced Lt Gen Namphy, who made a speech in which he stressed the need for everyone to work together to relaunch national commercial and industrial activities. Only then, said the general, can social peace be safeguarded in Haiti.

Namphy also discussed the economy, which is bad. General Namphy said the investment code is now on the way, and other investment codes are being studied, with a view to a concerted economic policy.

The general concluded his speech by assuring the Joint Consultative Commission for Industrial Development, and thus the private sector, of the support and consideration of the military government he heads.

This meeting, part of the joint commission's resurgence, is a step toward a (?desired and necessary) economic change.

We will have you listen to Lt Gen Namphy's message—his speech. Here is Lt Gen Namphy:

[Begin Namphy recording, in French] Ladies and gentlemen: My presence among you here today is evidence of the military government's desire to see to it that all Haitians participate in the search for solutions to the nation's major problems. One of the most pressing of these problems remains Haiti's persistent economic stagnation. Indeed, for more than 2 years now, difficulties of all kinds have paralyzed productive investments. The growth of the economy is at an all-time low.

This is an opportunity for me to pay public tribute to the Haitian and foreign entrepreneurs whose presence in Haiti is evidence of their confidence in our institutions and their future.

In our view, social peace must be maintained for there to be a commercial revival. The military government guarantees this. But the revival also requires a restructuring of our institutions and a review of our laws.

The joint commission that is resuming its labors today is called upon to waste no time in reevaluating all the agencies involved in promoting investments, so as to reduce as much as possible the loss of energy caused most often by an absence of coordination on the part of both public and private agencies in this field. Within this perspective, Prominex [Centre de Promotion des Investissements et des Exportations Haitiennes, Haitian Investment and Export Promotion Center], which is called on to play a key role, must be reevaluated and reoriented so that it will really serve the objectives for which it was created.

In a more general framework, Haiti's foreign service—I am referring to the consulates and the embassies—will in turn make their contribution to this institution's action.

I have also learned with great interest that the investment code is being updated. I am convinced that it will both meet the private sector's current needs and be in keeping with the national interest, as part of a concerted economic policy.

Other codes that will encourage investment are also now under study. They especially concern tourism, agriculture, and commerce.

Fiscal policy will be reviewed and particular attention will be given to the problem constituted by the new customs tariff.

Ladies and gentlemen, our choice of a market economy is evidence and consecration of the role of the private sector in Haiti. An expansion of this sector requires

effort and pragmatism. This is the price we must pay to enable a greater portion of our labor force, which is able and responsive, to be put to work. This is also the price we must pay to safeguard social peace. In this undertaking, the private sector may count on the support and the consideration of the military government. The trust in the joint investment promotion commission that the government is reiterating here is the most eloquent proof of this.

Long live Haiti, forevermore united! [end recording]

Ministry Refuses Authorization for U.S. Doctors

FL1808160588 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 17 Aug 88

[Text] Radio Haiti-Inter announced yesterday that the Haitian authorities, in particular the Haitian Ministry of Public Health, had not authorized 30 American doctors who periodically offer free services to the Petit Goave population to do this work. According to the radio station, Haiti's medical authorities said that there were two health centers in the area, and they therefore did not need the services of the American doctors.

The station pointed out that this is the first time the Haitian authorities have refused authorization to this group of doctors to provide health care in Haiti. The doctors are connected to the Free Methodist Church.

People's Assembly Denounces 'Macoute Military'

FL1808162988 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 17 Aug 88

[Excerpts] The People's National Assembly [APN] has reacted to the Labadie incident, saying that this is not the first time the macoutes have taken repressive action against Labadie's youth. On 14 July 1987, the macoute Army, under orders from the area's military commander, Ernst Ravix, and the prefect of Petite Riviere de l'Artibonite, Baguidy Grand-Pierre, raided an MJL [Labadie Youth Movement] meeting and arrested (Nixon Sainte) and Serges Desroches.

APN states: We take this opportunity to denounce the maneuvers of the macoute military, who each time they clean up an area, send an investigating committee. In actual fact, this is a tactic to continue any work that the macoutes dressed in olive green might have left unfinished and to disguise the truth and prevent any other organizations from carrying out a real investigation and providing any true solidarity to the victims. [passage omitted]

We say to all the other members of the MJL, whether wounded or in hiding, and to the friends and relatives of the victims: Stand your ground firmly, because the cause you are defending is a just cause.

That was a press release from the APN.

Jamaica

Seaga on Nation's Continued Need for IMF Funds

FL1808203888 Bridgetown CANA in English 1916 GMT 18 Aug 88

[Excerpts] Kingston, Jamaica, Aug 18, CANA—Jamaica will continue to need International Monetary Fund [IMF] credit and its seal of approval for at least another five years, according to the island's prime minister, Edward Seaga. "We will certainly need the IMF for another several years ... (at least) for another five years," Seaga told journalists here Wednesday.

Seaga this week announced a new U.S.114 million dollar stand-by facility with the IMF to come into force next month with an initial draw-down of U.S.19 million dollars. The 14-month package will be Seaga's fifth agreement with the IMF since coming to office in 1980 and the eighth Jamaica has had since the former Michael Manley administration first negotiated with the fund in 1977. [passage omitted]

Seaga in late 1985 criticised some of the IMF approaches and for most of 1986 Jamaica went without an IMF agreement while it resisted the fund's demand for further devaluation of the local dollar and a continued economic austerity. According to Seaga, in the agreement that was reached in January 1987, "We sucessfully convinced them to follow our path, not theirs". That, Seaga told parliament this week, was the turning point in the Jamaican economy, with Jamaica recording a more than five percent growth in the economy last year following a two percent hike in 1986.

However, he said, Jamaica would continue to need the "extraodinary loans" and will have to reschedule debts.

An agreement with the IMF is almost a prerequisite for any balance of payments-troubled developing country seeking to reschedule debts with the Paris Club group of Western creditor nations. [passage omitted]

Seaga on Break-Ins at Jamaica House Annexes

FL1808203788 Bridgetown CANA in English 1709 GMT 18 Aug 88

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Aug 18, CANA—Two annexes at Jamaica House, the Prime Minister's office here, were burgled this month leading to tighter security at the compound, Prime Minister Edward Seaga said. Seaga disclosed the break-ins, which took place within three days of each other earlier this month, when journalists questioned him about unusual interrogation and security checks when they went to Jamaica House for a briefing on Wednesday.

"We have had a couple of break-ins here recently," Seaga said.

"We haven't determined anything of significance that was taken."

The prefab-type, aluminium and sheet-board buildings broken into are some distance away from the main Jamaica House building, and hosts Seaga's Bureau of Management Support and Bureau of Citizens Affairs. They have a separate back entrance to the complex which is surrounded by a chain-link fence.

Seaga said that one office at the Bureau of Management Affairs, an important research arm to his office, was burgled and "certain drawers" entered.

At the nearby Bureau of Citizens Affairs, which coordinates the distribution of gifts from aboard, "some material items" were stolen, Seaga said.

The police could not immediately comment on the incident or the status of investigations.

Seaga, who has a strong, well-armed personal security, said that he did not necessarily agree with the level of security now in force at the complex, but added jocularly, "I am not in charge of security."

Founding Member of Workers Party Resigns

FL1808211888 Bridgetown CANA in English 2045 GMT 88 Aug 88

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Aug 18, CANA—A founding member of the Marxist Workers Party of Jamaica (WPJ) resigned on Thursday, declaring that its ideology was "narrow and dictatorial". The announcement by Don Robotham, a Central Committee member of the 11-year-old WPJ, comes ahead of the party's third congress next month, and political analysts said it would be a major blow to the WPJ.

"I have come to the conclusion that the party as presently constituted does not allow for the broad and diverse interests of our people to flourish in it," said Robotham in a letter to the WPJ's general secretary, Dr Trevor Munroe. "This is because its ideology of Marxism-Leninism is narrow and dictatorial and its organisational forms require that individual members are surbordinated, manipulated, and stifled, and that members, in effect, assist in the subordination, manipulation, and stifling of others," he added.

Munroe declined any immediate comment on Robotham's letter that was also sent to the Caribbean News Agency. "I have just received it, and I would really wish to study it and discuss it before making any comment," Munroe said.

Like much of the Caribbean left in post-revolutionary Grenada, the WPJ has been in disarray. The party has responded with an apparently divisive review over the past two years of its ideology and form.

Some political sources say that one tendency was for a broader party with a political ideology that would be more accommodating to Caribbean social and cultural norms. Others in the party would prefer a stricter adherence to classical Marxism-Leninism.

Robotham, a University of the West Indies sociology lecturer who recently returned from a sabbatical abroad, said that his discussions with other members indicated that the re-thinking was leading to no deep-seated changes with the WPJ.

"While some cosmetic changes will be made under your leadership, there is a firm determination to cling to the substance of Marxism-Leninism," he told Munroe.

Robotham, who was considered to be a WPJ hardliner, said he [words indistinct].

Senate Elections in 3 States Declared Valid

FL1808235788 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2147 GMT 18 Aug 88

[Text] Mexico City, 18 Aug (NOTIMEX)—Today the Senate's Electoral College declared valid and legal the elections for senators held in the states of Queretaro, Nayarit, and Tabasco on 6 July.

During the session, which began at 1100 (1700 GMT), the electoral college declared the elections valid, in accordance with the decisions reached by the commissions. The following were declared senators to represent their respective states in the 54th and 55th legislature of Congress:

Ernesto Luque Feregrino, for Queretaro; Enrique Burgos Garcia, for Nayarit; and Emilio M. Gonzalez Parra and Jose Julian Gaston Mercado, for Tabasco. Nicolas Reynes Berezaluce and Roberto Madrazo Pintado, the former for a 6-year period and the latter for 3. [sentence as received]

When the report for the state of Queretaro was discussed at the beginning of the meeting, Roberto Robles Garnica, presumed senator for Michoacan and member of the National Democratic Front [FDN], requested the floor to demand clean elections in Michoacan and asked that the report be returned to the commission.

On behalf of the majority of the ruling PRI, Blanca Ruth Esponda de Torres, presumed senator for the state of Chiapas, rejected each and every one of the statements made and opinions expressed by the opposition inasmuch as they are attempting to question the legitimacy of the most peaceful and clean elections of modern Mexico. She said while the PRI has gone to the Electoral College with respect for defending the citizens' will, expressed freely in the ballots, the opposition is breaking its most elemental rules to unleash its uncontrollable anarchy. She added the recent elections established in Mexico a party system that better reflects the demands of today's society. In addition, she said respectful and tolerant political dialogue should guide the behavior of the new legislators and of politicians. The legislator asked the presumed senators to approve the report that declares Ernesto Luque Feregrino senator for a 6-year term and Enrique Burgos Garcia for 3 years, as well as their respective alternates. The report was immediately unanimously approved.

Later, the states of Nayarit and Tabasco were questioned. Emilio M. Gonzalez Parra and Julian Gaston Mercado, Nicolas Reynes Berezaluce, and Roberto Madrazo Pintado were on the ticket.

In the case of Nayarit, presumed senator Cristobal Areas for the FDN spoke against the report and Humberto Lugo Gil, presumed senator for Tabasco, supported it. For Tabasco, Mario Niebla supported the report favoring Nicolas Reynes Berezaluce and Roberto Madrazo Pintado. Roberto Robles Garnica, from the FDN, spoke against it.

Text of Solidarity Pact Extension Agreement

PA1808150288 Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 15 Aug 88 p 8-A

[Solidarity Pact agreement for September, October, and November signed by honorary witness President Miguel de la Madrid and representatives of the federal government, and labor, peasant, and business sectors—date and place not given]

[Text] 1. Since June, the Economic Solidarity Pact's Follow-Up and Evaluation Commission has monitored the behavior of the national economy through various reports issued by the federal government and the labor, peasant, and business sectors. In particular, it has carefully monitored the behavior of prices, public finance, monetary accounting, interest rates, and the exchange rate market.

2. The following are the main conclusions resulting from a joint review carried out by those sectors and the government of the republic:

(a) Inflation reached 1.7 percent in July with only 0.4 percent during the second half compared to the first half. Inflation is expected to be approximately 1 percent in August.

(b) As for public finances, figures for the first half of this year show an increase in nonoil public revenues of 9.7 percent in real terms in comparison to the same period in 1987. Including oil revenues, there was a slight decrease amounting to 0.6 percent. Planned public sector expenditures decreased by 13.1 percent in real terms during the same period.

(c) Economic behavior in the foreign sector has been satisfactory. Nonoil exports increased by 19.4 percent during the first half of 1988 in comparison to the same period last year; dynamism was been maintained.

(d) The main indicators of monetary, credit, and exchange policies show an aggregate behavior that meets the expectations of the anti-inflationary strategy's guidelines. International reserves have maintained a high level, and nominal interest rates have contributed to stabilizing the economy.

3. Inflationary behavior over the past few months demonstrates the success and efficiency of the pact, which results from a unified effort.

Because of all of the above, the three sectors and the government have decided to extend the terms of the pact through September, October, and November. This decision will create trust in the economy's behavior among producers, businessmen, and service providers.

The gradual consolidation of price stability and price decreases foreseen in September, October, and November will allow consumers to budget their expenses appropriately.

Based on the above considerations, the sectors and the government reached the following agreement:

1. The federal government will not increase the price of goods and services produced by the public sector during September, October, and November.

2. Financial authorities will continue to maintain the peso's dollar exchange rate fixed during the period of the pact extension.

3. The executive branch will issue a decree, effective 1 September, setting the value added tax [IVA] on processed foods and medicines—which had been subject to a 6 percent tax until now—at zero.

4. Moreover, the executive branch will issue a decree, effective 1 September, exempting from income taxes 30 percent of the salaries earned by people throughout the country, equivalent to four times the established minimum salary.

5. The federal government will allocate the necessary resources to the National Fund for Development and Guarantee of Consumption by Workers (Fonacot) so that it can double the scope of its activities and allow consumers to increase their purchasing power.

6. The federal government will keep public expenditures within the annual budget to compensate for the financial sacrifice that some of the aforementioned measures imply.

7. Both the labor and the business sectors agreed not to ask for an adjustment of the minimum wage during September, October, and November, so the current minimum wage will prevail during the pact's extension.

8. Recognizing the need to increase consumers' purchasing power, the business sector has committed itself to ensuring that special efforts are made by industrialists and businessmen to reduce prices by 1 September through an agreement with the Chamber of Commerce and Industries and with those responsible for establishing price ceilings in each sector; this should lead to an average 3-percent reduction in prices compared to prices during the period 7 July-7 August. Special efforts should be made to reduce food and clothing prices.

Moreover, businesses must inform retailers that according to the law, the reduction of the IVA—to which point three refers—must fully benefit consumers. That reduction should be evident in product prices.

9. The federal government and labor organizations will provide the necessary instructions so the price reduction also applies to government and labor union stores effective 1 September.

10. In accordance with the federal government's obligation to maintain the prices of staple items at their 1987 real value, 15 days after signing this document, the agricultural sector, including the peasant and farming organizations that signed the pact, will meet to set the aforementioned prices.

11. In order to balance the differences in regional production—which affects producers' income—a policy to promote production will be implemented in accordance with regulations established by the federal government along with the peasant and farming organizations that signed the pact.

The various sectors and the federal government believe that to consolidate the progress made it is essential to continue making efforts, at least until the end of President Miguel de la Madrid's administration. All sectors fully agree with President de la Madrid that the Mexican inflation rate must be equal to the inflation rate in the countries that Mexico has most of its international trade with.

The peasant, worker, and business sectors and the federal government fully ratified the commitments made in the Economic Solidarity Pact signed before the Mexican president on 15 December 1987. The sectors reiterate their willingness to honor and develop all the measures and decisions adopted.

Miguel de la Madrid H., honorary witness.

For the federal government:

Labor Secretary Arsenio Farell Cubillas, Planning and Budget Secretary Pedro Aspe Armella, Commerce and Industrial Development Secretary Hector Hernandez, Finance and Public Credit Secretary Gustavo Petricioli, and Government Secretary Manuel Bartlett Diaz.

For the workers sector:

Workers Congress President Jorge Sanchez Garcia; Fidel Velasquez Sanchez, secretary general of the Mexican Workers Federation; Ignacio Cuauhtemoc, secretary general of the Mexican Regional Workers Federation; Roberto Castellanos, Revolutionary Federation of Workers and Peasants; and Francisco Hernandez, secretary general of the Mexican Labor Union of Telephone Operators.

For the peasant sector:

Professor Hector H. Olivares, secretary general of the National Peasant Federation; Javier Ahumada, president of the National Federation of the Small Farming, Cattle, and Forest Enterprise; and Francisco Merino Rabago, secretary of the Unions of the National Executive Comittee of the National Peasant Confederation.

For the business sector:

Agustin Lagorreta, president of the Enterprise Coordinating Council; Eduardo Garcia, president of the Confederation of National Chambers of Commerce; Vicente H. Bortoni, president of the Confederation of Chambers of Industry; Jorge Ocejo Moreno, president of the Mexican Employers Confederation; Jose Maria Alverde, president of the Mexico City National Chamber of Commerce; Jorge Kahwagi, president of the National Chamber of Manufacturing Industries; Jose M. Caso, president of the National Farming Council; Clemente Cabello, president of the Mexican Association of Insurance Companies; and Alfredo Harp Helu, president of the Mexican Association of Exchange Offices.

De la Madrid Stresses Need To Curb Inflation

PA1808154788 Mexico City XEW Television Network in Spanish 1300 GMT 18 Aug 88

[Report by Regina Aguirre]

[Excerpts] Yesterday President Miguel de la Madrid held two working meetings to discuss the Economic Solidarity Pact's effects on the public sector and the public sector's commitments to the pact during the remaining 3 months of his administration.

During the first meeting, the president met with cabinet officials handling legal matters [gabinete legal] and some of the general directors of the expanded cabinet. A discussion was held on the impact on budget revenues as a result of the reduction of the IVA [value added tax] on foodstuffs and medicine and the lifting [desgravacion] of the income tax of taxpayers whose income is as much as four times the current minimum wage. In this regard, Finance Secretary Gustavo Petricioli and Planning and Budget Secretary Pedro Aspe explained that the reduction in revenues during the rest of the year will total 265 trillion pesos. This forces the government to reduce public spending by the same amount in order to not affect the planned deficit levels, as this is an inviolable commitment of the government. They said the reduction will apply mainly to current spending in order to avoid affecting investments, particularly in priority works that are near completion. [passage omitted]

During the second meeting—with the governors—the president asked them to make an effort similar to that of the federal government to reduce spending and to continue to observe budgt discipline. [passage omitted]

Finally, President de la Madrid urged that efforts to abate inflation be continued during the remaining months of his administration so the incoming government will find the best possible conditions to begin the economic recovery on a sound footing.

Salinas Installs PRI Work Commissions

PA1708221788 Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 12 Aug 88 p 6

[Speech by President-Elect Carlos Salinas de Gortari at a ceremony installing PRI work commissions to draft the 1988-96 government program; at PRI headquarters in Mexico City—date not given]

[Excerpts] Today we begin the work to convert the campaign platform into the government program; however, we will not draft this program until the Chamber of Deputies has evaluated the presidential election. I adhere scrupulously to the norms of the Constitution. [passage omitted]

The Mexican people were not born from dogma or from a group or faction. We were born from the persistent and courageous action of a people who have set their historic course of freedom, progress, justice, and welfare—which only the people can continue to defend.

With the election victory, I received a clear mandate for change. I assume it completely as such. [passage omitted]

The change we promote acknowledges the history of the people; assumes the transformation of social realities, customs, and conduct; and willingly takes up the demands, nonconformities, grievances, and desires. The change will bring improvement over the past that nurtures it, without ignoring the achievements, but incorporating them to improve the change; without denying all the valuable things the nation has constructed, but building on them; without believing change can be made in a day, but learning to recognize the institutional causes and the recent history that make it possible. [passage omitted]

I have called for a meeting of the most talented and experienced representatives of Mexico who are open to many ideas to form commissions, because I am convinced that the government program concerns and interests everyone and that reconciliation and agreement, unless they are unilateral or imposed, are based on the government's works.

The general outlines of the majority program will be included in vigorous and ambitious projects, thanks to the open participation and honest judgment of the people.

We have a great national task at hand. It is expressed in 10 basic points:

1. We are going to defend and promote national sovereignty through a firm foreign policy. In keeping with the provisions of Article 89 of the Constitution, we will effectively use our diplomatic instruments. We will seek a new balance between bilateral and unilateral activity. We will ensure the coordination of international actions of every public sector, and we will guarantee continuous dialogue in this matter between the executive and legislative branches, particularly the Senate.

Let us forge the mechanisms, establish the schedules, and draft the programs.

2. We are going to ensure a better, more adequate, and more democratic balance between the country's branches of government. We will support the autonomy of each one of them without risking the ability to govern the society. We will promote a strengthening of the legislative branch's functions, its internal operation, and its relations with the other branches. [passage omitted]

3. We are going to strengthen and extend the decentralization of functions and decisions of the states, municipalities, and communities. Article 115 of the Constitution will be fully realized. [passage omitted]

4. As part of the political modernization, we are going to expand the participation of all Mexicans in decisionmaking and implementing the projects that affect and benefit them. Agreement will be a practical policy and a permanent method. [passage omitted]

5. I reaffirm the commitment assumed in Monterrey: We are going to recover the growth of our economy, beat inflation, and reestablish the progressive increase of workers' real wages, all in an honest and balanced climate.

The stage of adjustment and sacrifice is over. Together we will initiate the recovery of the Mexicans' standard of living. This cannot wait; we will initiate it immediately.

The servicing of the foreign debt will not prevent the realization of our objectives. We will strengthen the firm negotiations so the country will again achieve sustained and permanent growth.

6. We are going to modernize the production machinery as a whole. We will abandon archaic structures and practices. We will assume the risks of progress with responsibility. We will expand the strategy of redefining the public sector to strengthen it and fulfill its mandate to meet the social demands and raise the efficiency of its strategic and priority entities.

We will continue on the path of commercial expansion and the simplification of formalities to improve the operation of the economy. [passage omitted]

7. We are going to fight to eliminate poverty—not in the future, but now. Imperative of the revolution: We will grow [creceremos] for justice, extend the opportunities of employment, ensure the effectiveness of the supply of staples, and provide dignified housing and quality health service. [passage omitted]

8. We are going to expand the coverage and quality of education. Democracy and equality of opportunity are not possible without education. It is the most effective way to distribute income and is the basis for social civility. [passage omitted]

9. We are going to guarantee equality and productivity in Mexican agriculture. Justice begins at the people's table; thus we will return to agriculture all its potential. We will ensure a just exchange between the field and the city. We will resolve the problems of land ownership. We will provide the political and economic autonomy the nation's agricultural sector demands and deserves. It has proven it can perform.

In summary, we will establish a new way of life for the peasant.

10. We will provide every guarantee for the security of the citizen. We will use all the strength of the state's power against crime. We will modernize the administration of justice. We will turn the police forces into professionals at the service of the people. [passage omitted]

I address the nation, the citizens, the political parties, and their leaders to propose we maintain and redouble the democratic initiative. If we want to advance to a higher democracy, we must do so together, majorities and minorities together, with tolerance and respect. The voting is over. It was and is an exceptional historic process, and the Mexican people recognize this. [passage omitted]

By installing these commissions, I agree to a frank, sincere, and unlimited dialogue with the nation. The new era of Mexican democracy must be characterized by the unity of the Mexican people around their great challenges. This unity can be none other than plurality and democracy. [passage omitted]

Japanese Foreign Minister Concludes Visit

Salinas Cited on Ties

OW1808194488 Tokyo KYODO in English 1407 GMT 18 Aug 88

[Text] Mexico City, Aug. 17 KYODO—Mexican Planning and Federal Budget Secretary and President-Designee Carlos Salinas de Gortari said he wants to build up relations with Japan in all fields.

Salinas, who was elected as president last month, spoke at his office here to Japanese reporters accompanying Japanese Foreign Minister Sosuke Uno on his visit to Mexico.

The 40-year-old president-elect called for expansion of Japan's investment and trade with Mexico, its cooperation in solving Mexico's debt problem and promotion of cultural exchanges between the two nations. He also said he wants to conclude a trade and investment agreement with Japan to create strong bilateral economic relations.

On the Nicaraguan issue, Salinas asked for Japan's cooperation in reconstructing Central America and helping refugees.

Salinas also said Mexico's presidential election last month was legal, spurning the opposition camp's claim that the election was tainted with fraud.

He will assume the presidency on December 1.

Meanwhile, Uno, who will attend the late Pakistani President Ziaul Haq's funeral in Islamabad on Saturday as the Japanese Government's envoy, told Japanese reporters that he hopes to meet Acting Pakistani President Ghulam Ishaq Khan to deliver his condolences and pledge Japan's cooperation with Pakistan.

Uno also said he wants to hold talks with U.S. State Secretary George Shultz on the Afghan issue and the Gulf war if Shultz attends Zia's funeral.

Departs for Pakistan

OW1908025988 Tokyo KYODO in English 0110 GMT 18 Aug 88

[Text] Mexico City, Aug. 18 KYODO—Japanese Foreign Minister Sosuke Uno left here Thursday for Islamabad to attend the late Pakistani President Ziaul Haq's funeral on Saturday, Japanese sources said.

Uno arrived here Monday to celebrate the centenary of relations between Japan and Mexico.

During his 4-day visit, he held talks with Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid, Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda, and Planning and Federal Budget Secretary Carlos Salinas.

Uno was scheduled to return to Japan on Saturday, but since he was appointed Japan's representative at Zia's funeral, he flew directly to Pakistan.

Uno said that he wishes to deliver his condolences to Acting Pakistan President Ghulam Ishaq Khan and assure him of Japan's continued cooperation with Pakistan.

Briefs

1988 Economic Figures

A quarterly report issued by the Mexican Finance Secretariat indicates the country's industrial production decreased 2.5 percent during the first 5 months of 1988, but adds that unemployment has decreased despite this setback. The report adds that salaries have deteriorated 6.1 percent, and prices continue to decrease. Consumer prices increased only 1.7 percent in July, the lowest figure in 7 years. Furthermore, the country's trade registered a positive balance of $2,244,000. Oil exports dropped more than 12 percent, compared with the same period in 1987, yet the nonoil exports increased 21 percent. Almost $4 billion was paid in foreign debt interest, 15 percent more than the amount paid during the 2d quarter of 1987. The public foreign debt rose to almost $80 billion, and the banking revenues dropped 15.4 percent during the first 6 months of 1988. Credits dropped 8.5 percent compared with the same month in 1987, and the government's expenses dropped 2.4 percent compared with the first 6 months in 1987. [Summary] [*PA1808031888 Mexico City XEW Television Network in Spanish 1300 GMT 17 Aug 88*]

Drug Fight Statistics

Mexican National Defense Secretary General Juan Arevalo Gardoqui reported to President Miguel de la Madrid that in the last 20 days, the Mexican Army destroyed 38 camps and 11 landing strips used for drug cultivation and trafficking. In addition, 253 alleged drug traffickers were detained, including 4 foreigners. During this 20-day period, 5,264 marijuana and 530 poppy plantations were destroyed and 300 kg of packed marijana were confiscated within a 1,177-hectare area. Also confiscated were 319 firearms. [Excerpts] [*PA1508181288 Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 9 Aug 88 p 5-A*]

El Salvador

Spokesman Says Duarte's Health 'Improved'

PA1808181188 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1725 GMT 18 Aug 88

[Excerpts] San Salvador, 18 Aug (ACAN-EFE)—Today an official spokesman reported that Salvadoran President Jose Napoleon Duarte's health "has improved and is taking a turn for the better." Duarte's health had worsened over the past few days when his white-cell blood count dropped because of the chemotherapy treatment he received to fight cancer.

This morning Eduardo Colindres, secretary of presidential public relations and protocol, told ACAN-EFE that the head of state, who is suffering from advanced cancer of the stomach and liver, "has managed to weather the critical stage."

Colindres said that U.S. doctors from Walter Reed Hospital, who arrived yesterday in El Salvador to treat the president, announced that Duarte "is better than had been expected." [passage omitted]

Colindres pointed out that the 62-year-old Duarte is secluded in his presidential residence and has suspended all official functions.

According to Colindres, the chemotherapy treatments will be continued in September but, unlike the two previous occasions, this time they will be administered by U.S. and Salvadoran doctors in El Salvador. [passage omitted]

FMLN Commander Pascual Killed in Clash

PA1808222088 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1800 GMT 18 Aug 88

[Coprefa report]

[Text] Yesterday an FMLN terrorist commander known as Pascual was killed in a clash between FMLN rebels and a Marine battalion near Salamar hamlet, Jucuaran jurisdiction, Usulutan Department.

According to the report, an eight-member rebel column headed by Pascual was conducting supply operations when they were surprised by the Marines. In addition, FMLN terrorist Tereza, a radio operator, was also killed in the clash. The Marines confiscated two M-16 rifles, grenades, an ICOM radio, and other war equipment.

Meanwhile, National Guardsmen clashed with FMLN rebels at El Zapote Canton, San Jose Guayabal jurisdiction, Cuscatlan Department, and confiscated an M-16 rifle.

Guatemala

Public Workers Supporting Strike Face Dismissal

PA1808140788 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 0044 GMT 18 Aug 88

[Text] There were huge losses in the Finance Ministry today as a result of a 6-hour strike by workers in several departments. The strike, used as a pressure tactic by the union, started today at 0800.

Today the Interior Ministry ordered increased police surveillance in various government offices where striking public workers might cause trouble. According to what has been reported, police surveillance was increased in the buildings housing the National Institute of Electrification, INDE; post offices; immigration offices; and at Congress. Workers have gone on strike to protest the high cost of living.

According to Interior Minister Roberto Valle Valdisa, government workers that support the strike will have cases opened against them and they will be fired as they are openly breaking the law.

The Interior Minister has said that workers should be aware that with the steps they have taken they are harming the people who need to go to the various government offices. They are also harming the country in general because too much money is being lost due to the strike.

Government To Meet With Union To View Problems

PA1908021888 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0058 GMT 19 Aug 88

[Excerpts] Guatemala City, 18 Aug (ACAN-EFE)—Today the Guatemalan Government agreed to meet "immediately" with a labor union and to analyze the country's current social and economic problems.

Today presidential spokesman Claudia Arenas Bianchi told ACAN-EFE: "In the spirit of dialogue, the government has agreed to the proposal presented by the Single Labor Union Coordinating Board [Coordinadora Sindical Unitaria], (COSU), to hold a meeting." [passage omitted]

The executive branch stated that COSU's proposal is reasonable "since the government also believes that it is necessary to exchange views to attain national unity."

Referring to the meeting proposed by COSU, the government suggested that the meeting be attended by political parties and popular organizations that wish to exchange views on the country's current situation and the government's economic measures.

The regime proposed that the meeting analyze the current situation to prevent a "polarization" of the Guatemalan people and instead provide an opportunity for

"participation in a dialogue," Arenas Bianchi said. She also revealed that the government "welcomes" the dialogue recently proposed by the National Reconciliation Commission (CNR). She said "the government will participate and has several proposals to make."

She also recognized the importance of a national dialogue since it would involve all the representative sectors of the country. Thus, each sector will state its views and a consensus will be achieved to benefit Guatemala.

Arenas also said: "The government has proposed to the COSU that the meeting be held immediately, since this would accelerate the process proposed by the CNR and increase the benefits for the Guatemalan people." [passage omitted]

Honduras

Lopez on Nicaraguan ICJ Suit, Humanitarian Aid

PA1808181788 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1120 GMT 17 Aug 88

[Interview with Foreign Minister Carlos Lopez Contreras by Julio Armando Valdes at the Presidential Palace "yesterday"—recorded]

[Excerpt] [Station introductory passage omitted] [Lopez, in progress] ...it is in effect. We have not withdrawn it. We formalized it at the OAS, we repeated it at the Executive Commission meeting, but its execution had, of course, to go hand in hand with a state of goodwill, a state of compliance by all sides. Right from the start we insisted that it is incompatible to maintain legal proceedings between the two sides while negotiating. Therefore, the way is open to implement it. We were on the verge of implementing it; that is, the auxiliary technical commission—Spain, Canada, and the FRG. The Foreign Ministry carefully drew up the resolutions. They were ready to sign, but Foreign Minister D'Escoto refused to cancel the suit when he was here, so it has now become complicated.

[Valdes] Who will pay for this international security commission?

[Lopez] Basically, it would be an international responsibility. The Central American crisis is described as a crisis of international dimensions, involving the superpowers, where a group of Latin American countries have taken part; also the OAS and the United Nations. Therefore, there are financial sources. There are two dimensions: one of inspection, and another of control and pressure to ensure respect for the borders. This is where Honduras has insisted that it is not up to Honduras to exert pressure and conduct surveillance in the name of the international community. This is not up to us, because if the superpowers are involved, we cannot play the role of peacemakers.

[Valdes] Does the Honduran Government fear that this lawsuit may result in a ruling in Nicaragua's favor?

[Lopez] No. We appeared before the court, observing proper respect for international law, and it was us, seeing that Nicaragua refused to withdraw the suit, that suggested the oral arguments, and we have taken part and are awaiting the results. We do not think this helps either side or the resolution of the Central American crisis by maintaining the lawsuit. Whether it helps or hurts either side—that is irrelevant. The truth is, in the worst case for Honduras, that the court rules that Honduras was responsible, Esquipulas II collapses. It is as simple as that, because Honduras will do its best within the legal framework.

[Valdes] By Honduras making a legal effort, this implies that we need to enter into a new dialogue with Nicaragua. Does this exist?

[Lopez] We are quite willing [to have a dialogue]—we have said it, and the president has said it through presidential communiques. Honduras is quite willing to participate in the Executive Commission, but,for definite agreements, not to have a disaster, as we had here during the last meeting.

[Valdes] What is the origin or the fundamental basis for taking this position toward Nicaragua?

[Lopez] When you negotiate, you do not show all your cards. You must gain your own benefits first. In other words, we are on an equal footing, and not in a situation of submission toward Nicaragua's demands. The crisis affects several countries and it affects Nicaragua. They have their interests and want to resolve their security problems. We want to resolve the aspects that affect us, among which is the ICJ [International Court of Justice] lawsuit.

[Valdes] What measures or controls are planned for the return to Honduras of the Nicaraguan counterrevolutinaries?

[Lopez] Those measures have been taken by the Armed Forces. I made some statments yesterday about this. For the time being, and within the spirit of Esquipulas II, we have allowed the arrival of humanitarian aid under the inspection of the Honduran Catholic Church. I believe Msgr Rodriguez has given statements on this in the Honduran press today—that they are guaranteeing there is no movement of military equipment, only humanitarian aid.

[Valdes] Why is it important that this humanitarian aid go through Honduras?

[Lopez] It is important for Honduras that this aid arrive here so those people do not move to the interior of the country.

[Valdes] Why have the contras chosen our country instead of Costa Rica?

[Lopez] They preferred to seek refuge here because in the negotiations made by the Sandinist government with the contras, they defined three territorial enclaves that measure about 10,000 square km next to the Honduran border. Therefore, the Nicaraguan Government is very much responsible because the contras use Honduran territory.

Nicaragua

Ortega on Talks, U.S. Elections, Radio Catolica

PA1908003188 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2216 GMT 18 Aug 88

[News conference held by President Daniel Ortega Saavedra with unidentified reporters at the Foreign Ministry after meeting with U.S. Senator Christopher Dodd—live]

[Text] [Ortega] I have talked to Ambassador [as heard] Dodd as we have done at other times: openly and frankly. We discussed the Central American situation, particularly Nicaragua's willingness to continue the negotiating process in the framework of the peace plan we Central American presidents signed in Esquipulas. We stressed the need for a Central American presidents meeting to discuss several pending issues, such as armaments and security, which deals with the Contadora process and our commitment at Esquipulas. We have insisted on the need for this meeting. We have observed an interest on the part of the Costa Rican and Guatemalan Governments. As far as we know, the Salvadoran Government is also willing to participate in this meeting. Only the Honduran Government remains to agree. The Honduran Government is conditioning its participation to Nicaragua's withdrawing the legal suit it filed against Honduras at the International Court of Justice in The Hague.

Regarding Sapoa, we reiterate the need for ending offensive operations and holding a new round of talks in Managua 26-29 August. Today is 18 August; we will make every effort so this meeting can be held 26-29 August. In other words, although the U.S. Senate approved more funds for the contras, which goes against Esquipulas and Sapoa, Nicaragua is still willing to continue defending the Esquipulas and Sapoa agreements and the negotiating process.

[Reporter] Commander, how do you view Honduras' position now that there is a new meeting pending?

[Ortega] Honduras' stance is cause for concern; it seems as if Honduras does not understand that the crisis affecting the Central American region can affect and destabilize Honduras, that the presence of the contras can destabilize Honduras. We have even proposed to Honduras that Spain, Canada, the FRG, and a country from the Group of the Eight immediately form a multinational force of civilian observers at the border to guarantee an easing of tension there and to end the contra activity that is carried out from Honduran territory. The Honduran Government itself has proposed in writing the establishment of that force. Honduras has said it would accept this only if we were to withdraw the suit from the court. Therefore, there is a tremendous fear of the law by Honduras—which is truly frightful, because it seeks to disavow international legal order, disregarding the instruments we have available to resolve the problems between states and resolve them through negotiations rather than through the military path. The court is a fundamental instrument in this sense.

We are telling Honduras that on the court matter, it is possible the suit filed by Nicaragua against Honduras may be resolved out of court if the multinational force is established at the border. If the multinational force is established, we both have a guarantee. With those terms, the suit Nicaragua filed with the court can be resolved out of court.

At the same time, both Honduras and Nicaragua must remain loyal to the commitment of not renouncing our right to resort to the court whenever it becomes necessary. A situation such as the one being experienced in the Central American region—specifically the Honduran-Nicaraguan border area at this time, where there is great tension that is taken advantage of by the United States to increase its military presence with more military maneuvers to intimidate Nicaragua—does not permit us, even in a normal situation, to renounce the use of instruments such as the court.

We even have to consider that in the case of Honduras and Nicaragua, we took an existing land dispute to the court a few years ago. The court ruled in favor of Honduras. This ruling was heeded by the Nicaraguan Government at that time, by the Somozist government. The revolution has not come to raise this topic, it has not come to disavow the court ruling, but rather has accepted the court ruling in that regard. Therefore, we cannot renounce from any standpoint the use of legal instruments.

The only thing that would be fitting here would be an out-of-court settlement with Honduras if the multinational force is established. The Central American foreign ministers agreed that the Governments of Canada, Spain, and the FRG be part of the multinational force to resolve problems such as these. We have proposed that a Latin American country from the Group of Eight join this force. There would be four countries, four governments participating in this effort. Therefore, by establishing this multinational force, we would be willing to settle out of court the case against Honduras, the suit filed with the court. However, Honduras and Nicaragua must agree to retain the right to resort to the court whenever we deem necessary.

[Reporter] President Ortega, there have been optimistic estimates of the peace possibilities in the area following the U.S. elections, and that regardless of who wins, the possibilities for peace will be better. What is your opinion on this?

[Ortega] Reagan's policy has definitely failed over the last 8 years of his term, which will end 20 January. It is a policy of failure. That policy has brought more suffering and pain to Central America. It has destabilized the U.S. allies in the area, which have been used as instruments in this war against Nicaragua. Honduras has been destabilized by the U.S. policy. The results of the terrorist policy of the Reagan administration against Nicaragua can be seen. The Reagan administration will have to leave the White House on 20 January, and the Nicaraguan revolution will stay. That is a concrete, objective fact. The new U.S. administration, whether Republican or Democrat, will have to realize that fact. Even if Mr Bush wins, he will not make the same mistakes Reagan made. We do not think he will repeat Reagan's mistakes. Therefore, the picture must necessarily change.

[Reporter] President Ortega, why did you permit Radio Catolica to resume broadcasting and then close it?

[Ortega] That is a topic broached this morning. It was discussed yesterday and again today by the Interior Ministry's Media Directorate and the radio directors. This topic had already been broached by the Reconciliation Commission with Cardinal Obando y Bravo. It is important that Radio Catolica, which is supposed to be a station carrying pastoral, evangelical, and religious messages, not carry a message of death and terrorism. Radio Catolica should not be the mouthpiece of the counterrevolution and death, but the mouthpiece of peace, justice, and love in this country. It should carry the message of Christianity. The logical thing is that Radio Catolica should air religious messages and not the messages it aired, serving as the mouthpiece of the counterrevolution.

[Reporter] Over the past few days, there have been U.S. press reports that the contras are starving to death in Honduran camps, that refugees starving to death are arriving, and that they require urgent U.S. humanitarian aid. President Oscar Arias has also spoken of this. What is your opinion?

[Ortega] Those who speak in that way are completely cynical, because they do not say that those criminals are killing the Nicaraguan people. In fact, just the day before yesterday in the Jinotega zone, 4- and 5-year-old children were killed and 4-, 5-, and 8-year-old children were wounded. Those are the acts carried out by these individuals, these criminals, who stage acts of terrorism against the people. How can one come out in favor of feeding criminals so that they can continue killing the Nicaraguan people? Those criminals have been given the opportunity here in Nicaragua to accept the amnesty. There is an open door for them to be integrated into Nicaraguan society. But to continue feeding them so that they can continue killing the Nicaraguan people would be tantamount to becoming accomplices to the crimes being committed by the contras against the Nicaraguan people. It is true that some of those people are going to Honduras to be fed and to obtain foodstuffs, logistical support, and more weapons and ammunition to return to our territory to continue killing the Nicaraguan people. Therefore, the call for humanitarian aid for the counterrevolution is totally cynical. It goes against the Nicaraguan people's human rights; it goes against international legal order; and it goes against the Esquipulas agreement.

I understand President Arias said he favors humanitarian aid, but for the refugees. At no time has he said he favors humanitarian aid for those criminals who are killing the Nicaraguan people. President Arias can clarify that himself. I understand that is what he said and that Costa Rican journalists and international news agencies manipulated his statement to imply support of the Reagan administration's attitude, which is using this as a pretext to send more arms, ammunition, and food to those criminals so they can continue killing the Nicaraguan people.

[Reporter] Last weekend in Bluefields, Commander Tomas Borge said the contras were not going to sign a cease-fire as long as President Reagan is in office. If the Nicaraguan Government believes this is so, why has it proposed a new meeting?

[Ortega] We are compelled to continue striving for peace. We know the Reagan administration does not want to find peace and that the contras are following that policy. However, practice has shown us that incidents occur that are beyond the wishes of the Reagan administration and the (?contras). The Sapoa agreement ran counter to the wishes of the Reagan administration. This was the Sapoa agreement. [sentence as heard] During the meetings held in Managua, 20 out of 32 points contained in the agenda proposed by the Nicaraguan Government were approved. This shows we can advance, even against the wishes of the Reagan administration. That is why we insist that the new round of talks be held here in Managua 26-29 August. We maintain that proposal. We hope the contras do not reject it.

[Reporter] Commander, when do you plan to meet with the National Reconciliation Commission?

[Ortega] We are awaiting the return of Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo, who chairs the commission, to meet with him.

[Reporter] Did you discuss the results or consequences of the Nandaime incident with U.S. Senator Christopher Dodd? It seems that he was interested...

[Ortega, interrupting] We talked about the general situation; we talked about the domestic situation. I told him we were enforcing the laws. It should be understood once and for all that there is a legal framework in Nicaragua; there is a constitutional framework, as in any country in the world. That must be respected.

[Reporter] One final question. How do you view the National Reconciliation Commission mission to seek kidnapped victims in Honduras?

[Ortega] We are first waiting for them to go there. That is our hope. If they get there, they will conduct the appropriate work.

Government Authorizes Radio Catolica Reopening

PA1808170888 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1630 GMT 18 Aug 88

[Excerpt] Managua, 18 Aug (ACAN-EFE)—The Nicaraguan Government has authorized the reopening of Radio Catolica, the archbishopric's radio station, which had been closed for almost 40 days on charges of having violated the communications media law.

The announcement was made today on "The Awakening" [Radio Noticias' "El Despertar"] newscast—broadcast by a private radio station in the Nicaraguan capital—by Managua Archbishop Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo, after a meeting with Presidency Minister Rene Nunez.

However, Bismarck Carballo, director of Radio Catolica, said that beginning tomorrow, Friday, the station will broadcast only religious programming while it reviews and reprograms its newscasts, which will remain suspended for 3 months. [passage omitted]

U.S. Accused of Violating Regional Peace Pacts

PA1808142488 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 18 Aug 88

[Text] United Nations, (DPA)—Nicaragua has again accused the United States of violating the Central American peace agreements, in view of the U.S. Congress' decision to send more aid to Nicaraguan counterrevolutionary organizations.

A letter from the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry, which was circulated as a document at the UN General Assembly and Security Council, states that the U.S. Congress' decision to send an additional $27 million to the contras, beginning on 1 October, is a very serious violation of the norms and principles governing international relations.

The letter expresses Nicaragua's rejection of what it describes as a criminal action by the U.S. Senate and reaffirms Nicaragua's inalienable right to adopt whatever measures it may consider necessary and in accordance with international and domestic laws to defend its sovereignty, territorial integrity, and independence.

The letter adds that the United States has continued to sabotage the Esquipulas II and Sapoa agreements, thereby hindering the Central American peace process.

Contras Kill 8, Injure 10 in Jinotega Attack

PA1808214188 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 18 Aug 88

[Text] The Nicaraguan Defense Ministry has reported that 8 people were killed and 10 were injured, most of them children, as the result of a brutal attack by mercenaries loyal to the terrorist policy of former Somozist Colonel Enrique Bermudez against Monterrey settlement, Jinotega Department. The mercenaries also burned 10 houses.

This is the direct consequence of the Reagan administration's logistical support for the contras.

Panama

Lt Col Herrera Vows To Return To Lead FDP

PA1908010388 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0004 GMT 19 Aug 88

[Text] Panama City, 18 Aug (ACAN - EFE)—Lieutenant Colonel Eduardo Herrera Hassan, nephew of the late General Omar Torrijos and currently living in exile, has sent a letter to Panama Defense Forces [FDP] members asking them for support to end General Manuel Antonio Noriega's command.

In the letter telefaxed from Costa Rica and Miami to FDP officers, ambassadors, and other addressees in Panama, Herrera asserts that he will return "in a few days" to "lead our institution with the contribution of the FDP's troops, NCO's, and honest officers and with the same affection, respect, and professionalism that other good commanders taught us."

A spokesman of the FDP press office discussed the letter with ACAN-EFE. He downplayed the importance of the letter and said he was "not directly aware" of it.

Herrera asserts that he "and many officers and troops have been victims of current Commander Noriega's injustices. Noriega, without any respect for our rules and promotion lists, illegaly expelled us from the institution."

"They have forced us to repress women, youths, and old people and they have subjected the Panamanian people to the most brutal repression ever experienced in our homeland," Herrera adds. Herrera had been the Panamanian ambassador to Israel until 4 months ago, when he was removed from that position and expelled from the FDP, accused of disobeying an order from the FDP command.

The letter, the text of which was released to ACAN-EFE by an embassy today, says that Herrera will return "to release his mistreated comrades" and to "enforce the fulfillment of our rules."

Lt Col Herrera, whom Torrijos once presented as his successor, tells his comrades-in-arms that "together and along with good Panamanian civilians we will celebrate our victory and will begin the reconstruction of the new republic."

The letter, in which Herrera reiterates the words "we shall return" and "we shall come back," concludes with the following slogan: "For a democratic daybreak."

Herrera asserts that the FDP has been "used to make a few people rich, especially its commander, Noriega, and his close civilian allies." Herrera adds that the current "strongman" of Panama "is responsible for the division between us (the military sector) and the Panamanian family."

Herrera says: "He (Noriega) got us all involved, as if we were all criminals and drug traffickers, to the point that we are now described as suspicious individuals by the authorities at international airports."

Msgr Brown on Closure of Radio Stations

PA1908032188 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 18 Aug 88

[Text] Two local radio stations—Radio Noticias and Radio Suave—were closed yesterday, and their operational permits were suspended following orders from the Government and Justice Ministry. Here is a statatement by Msgr Oscar Brown regarding this matter:

[Begin recording] At the last meeting of the Episcopal Conference, we issued a communique in which we expressed our concern about the closure of some media. We said that as elections approach, it is necessary to have freedom of expression and freedom of the press, because to prepare an electoral process, the country's problems must be openly discussed, solutions must be proposed, and then the best solution can be implemented. This requires freedom of information. Therefore, we are deeply concerned each time we receive news like this and when we see some media are still closed. We urge an end to this situation for our homeland's sake. [end recording]

Suave Allowed To Reopen

PA1908023388 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0130 GMT 19 Aug 88

[Text] Panama City, 18 Aug (DPA)—Today the Panamanian Government and Justice Ministry permitted the reopening of "Radio Estereo Suave," which was closed yesterday, and the normal resumption of its daily "FM" transmissions.

A report by the Social Communications Media Directorate noted that "Radio Suave was allowed to resume its 'FM' transmissions since it has a strictly music programming format; therefore, there is no reason to ban its broadcasts."

The same office did not say when Radio Noticias, which broadcasts on the AM frequency, would be allowed to reopen.

IRHE Workers Released; Union Leader Still Held

PA1908000688 Panama City Telemetro Television in Spanish 2337 GMT 18 Aug 88

[Text] A few minutes ago sources from the IRHE [Institute of Hydraulic Resources and Electrification] labor union reported that 39 labor union members, excluding labor leader Isaac Rodriguez, were released by the authorities. A SITIRHE [Union of Workers of the IHRE] source reported that Isaac Rodriguez has begun a hunger strike that will last until he obtains his release.

Reasons for Detention Cited

PA1908033488 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 18 Aug 88

[Text] Isaac Rodriguez, secretary general of the Union of Workers of the Institute of Hydraulic Resources and Electrifiction, remains in jail by order of the authorities. The Attorney General's Office is in charge of the investigation against Rodriguez.

Public Prosecutor Mario Ballesteros told this television station that he is in charge of two pending cases against Rodriguez. One of them is linked to the events of 16 March, the investigation of which was assigned to him by the Attorney General's Office. The second case, which was assigned to him at the government's initiative, is related to the attempt to cut off power to the ERSA [Renovacion Publishing Company, Inc.] facilities and Televisora Nacional [on 16 August]. The power outage also affected other sectors in the area.

There are serious charges against Isaac Rodriguez, including crimes against public security, crimes against the internal and legal security of the state, and abuse of his authority over public employees, which resulted in the 16 March national power outage.

In addition, Isaac Rodriguez is accused of usurpation of public functions and attacks on public authorities, because he led IRHE employees to arbitrarily cut off power to the aforementioned installations on 16 August.

Public Prosecutor Ballesteros said that bail was set today for Isaac Rodriguez. Clara Madariaga de De Leon, judge of the 15th Criminal Court of the First Judicial Circuit, has the authority to decide whether the bail will be granted or not.

SITIRHE has filed charges against IRHE administrative authorities, who were summoned by the prosecutor's office to make statements on those charges today.

Students Protest Arrest of Electrical Workers

PA1808191288 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1835 GMT 18 Aug 88

[Text] Panama City, 18 Aug (ACAN-EFE)—Today Dozens of students from the University of Panama Law School today closed off a street adjacent to the campus to protest the arrest of over 36 workers of the state electric power company, including Isaac Rodriguez, secretary general of the workers' union.

The students told ACAN-EFE that the purpose of the protest is to express solidarity with Rodriguez, who was arrested on Tuesday when he and 35 other workers cut off the power to two news organizations linked to the government, alleging that they owe the power company more than $500,000.

Although the students remained in the closed-off street throughout the morning, the authorities did not put in an appearance.

Student leaders said this is only the first protest; they plan to stage others until the authorities release the arrested workers.

Meanwhile, a source within the Union of Workers of the Institute of Hydraulic Resources and Electrification told ACAN-EFE that the whereabouts of the workers and their legal status remain unknown.

In reprisal, the workers have closed collection agencies, at least in the metropolitan area of the Panamanian capital, and have refused to make minor repairs.

Demand Media Reopening

PA1808233688 Panama City Telemetro Television in Spanish 2315 GMT 18 Aug 88

[Text] This afternoon University of Panama students of the social communications, sociology, and law faculties blocked the Transisthmian Highway. They were demanding the reopening of the closed mass media. The university students used steel drums, sticks, and stones for this purpose, causing a major traffic jam in the region. The students noted that protests will continue throughout the week.

Teachers Receive Paychecks; Other Demands Remain

PA1808134688 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 17 Aug 88

[Interview with Professor Nestor Villareal, Panama Teachers Association president, by unidentified reporter; date and place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Villareal] We started receiving our paychecks today after 0800. The checks for the first 2 weeks actually started arriving at about 0900. We want to stress that we have had to halt work and protest because, truthfully, teachers do not have any money. This is also true of Panamanians when they are not paid.

Therefore, we will continue insisting on elections for the personnel board, as well as insisting on the payment we have a right to receive by law: the 13th month bonus. In our case there are basic things that have not been complied with: elections for the personnel board, payment of the 13th month bonus, and respect for the basic education law, including the National Education Coordinating Commission. Until these points are resolved, we have to continue protesting.

[Reporter] Professor, will the high schools in Panama be open tomorrow?

[Villareal] Yes, as normal. Parents should send their children with confidence as the schools will be open.

Protests at Funeral 'Desecration' of Arias

PA1808224488 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 18 Aug 88 p 4

[Editorial: "A Posthumous Vindication"]

[Excerpts] Ever since it was founded 30 years ago, CRITICA has maintained an editorial policy of constant opposition to the presidential aspirations of Dr Arnulfo Arias, while always recognizing his unequalled popularity. [passage omitted]

In the past 2 decades, our line has not changed, but we recognize the grandeur of the deceased singular figure. His death, mourned by hundreds of thousands of Panamanians, closes an era in the history of Panama, an era in which he undeniably stood out for 6 decades as the great authoritarian chieftain who divided the country's politics into two great blocs: for Arnulfo, or against Arnulfo.

Ever since the oligarchic sectors joined the U.S. agents to overthrow him in 1941, those sectors have always been obviously the primary and staunchest enemies of Arnulfism. [passage omitted]

The appropriate tribute of honors and grief gave way to other appetites, turning the funeral of such a beloved and venerated man into a meeting dominated by slogans of the Civic Crusade, which Dr Arnulfo Arias himself categorically rejected and repudiated when the United States openly meddled in our country in March 1988.

However, at the forefront of events monopolizing radio and television programs, we have seen a true collection of Dr Arnulfo Arias' enemies parading by in the past few days. Those people were a stigma to Arnulfists since the first government cabinet toppled him in 1941; they directly embraced or approved the stripping of the Panamenist leader's political rights by the 1951 National

Assembly; in 1964, they authored the clumsiest of swindles to deny his victory at the elections; and they have invested fortunes for half a century to prevent his unforgettable "we will return" from crystallizing. [passage omitted]

How is it possible that during the last tribute to Dr Arnulfo Arias last Monday there was no complaint, not even one reference to the fact that the number one enemy of this leader for more than half a century was the U.S. alliance with oligarchic sectors, which are not wearing masks today and are gathered under the Civic Crusade banner asking for military intervention?

In recognizing with justice that he occupies a high place in history and protesting the desecration of his memory in what should have been an unparalleled funeral, CRITICA does not aspire to be absolved for having opposed Dr Arnulfo Arias, because the death of no leader absolves those who have opposed him. We believe it is an insult to his historical image to applaud the ambassador of a power that toppled him in 1941 and demanded that the Crusade's seditious movement not make him its standard-bearer or presidential candidate. To rightist authoritarianism, which is profoundly nationalistic and opposed to foreign meddling—the political creed of this great Panamenist—that irreverent and unheard-of applause, even inside the Metropolitan Cathedral, is an insult that cannot be forgiven.

Senior Arnulfist leaders—those who knew him, who listened to his last advice on what to do for the party and our country—are starting this task today while bearing an enormous burden imposed on them by the same U.S.-oligarchy alliance that organized the desecration of the funeral of their irreplaceable leader. [passage omitted]

Argentina

Corps Commander Denies Rumors of Unrest

PY1808034488 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2250 GMT 17 Aug 88

[Text] Cordoba, 17 Aug (NA)—Today General Roberto Dominguez, commander of the 3d Army Corps, said that the rumors about alleged insubordination of some 80 officers who had opposed the replacement of their commander were part of "a psychological campaign," and he warned that "nothing nor anybody will distract this garrison from carrying out its professional activities."

Gen Dominguez also said that no campaign such as the one reported "will affect the discipline, propriety, or efficiency" of the corp members he commands.

Gen Dominguez thus denied press reports published in the federal capital stating that some 80 officers of the 4th Communications Company had protested the replacement and placing on availability status of their commander, Major Danilo Campos, allegedly linked to a group of rebels related to Aldo Rico.

In a communique issued late this afternoon, Gen Dominguez said that Campos was placed on availability status on 20 July and that at noon, 2 August, Major Luis Alberto Rena had taken over as commander of this unit.

Herewith is the full text of the communique:

"In view of press reports published by two dailies in the federal capital reporting acts of indiscipline prompted by the replacement and placing on availability status of the former commander of the 4th Airborne Communications Company, the commander of the 'northern' 3d Army Corps here reports:

"1) The replacement and placing on availability status of the commander of the subunit was ordered by the Army general staff commander on 20 July.

"2) The measure was implemented on 22 July when the replaced commander returned to Cordoba and presented himself before the commander of the 4th Airborne Infantry Brigade.

"3) Maj Luis Alberto Rena, who was appointed new commander of the company on 27 July, was duly sworn in at 1200 on 2 August by the commander of the 4th Airborne Infantry Brigade.

"4) At no time did the replaced commander, Maj Danilo Campos, nor any officer refuse to fulfill the orders received.

"5) The rumors referred to are nothing but another psychological campaign designed to confuse the citizenry and create a false image of the situation within the Cordoba Army garrison.

"6) Nothing nor anybody will manage to distract this garrison from carrying out its professional activities, which included, among other things, 400 parachute jumps during the night and day of 16 August. Nothing nor anybody will affect the discipline, propriety, and efficiency to which the people of Cordoba are accustomed and which they have praised on recent occasions, such as the ceremony of the flag pledge, the 9 July military parade, and all other occasions on which the cadres and troops appeared before their fellow citizens."

Campos was the first of a list of 15 officers in the same situation as a consequence of an investigation being conducted by the military court regarding their alleged participation in a rebel group that responded to Aldo Rico, head of the Monte Caseros incident.

The list of those officers was found in the cell of Major Jorge Damico, held under arrest at the Magdalena prison and charged with participating in the Monte Caseros rebellion, as a consequence of an investigation started by the civilian court seeking to clarify a case of blackmail.

According to daily AMBITO FINANCIERO, some 80 officers had allegedly protested the decision to replace Campos; Army Chief of Staff General Dante Caridi had decided to intervene personally and replace the officer with the support of a special force.

Nuclear Plant Out of Service for 20 Days

PY1908005088 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2105 GMT 18 Aug 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 18 Aug (NA)—The Atucha I nuclear plant will be out of service for 20 days. According to reliable sources, "this means that if it does not rain in the next 5 days, the whole power system will be in crisis." This is why the authorities are preparing a "program of measures" which include interrupting the electricity service for shop windows and electric advertising signs." [quotation marks as received]

The same sources said that "the public will be informed of the situation in the next few days" as a consequence of the interruption of the Atucha I nuclear plant services. The announcement will be made before the implementation of the "extreme measures that will be adopted."

The sources told NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS that the absence of rain lately has reduced the generation of electricity, a situation that will be exacerbated by the shutdown at the nuclear plant.

"If it does not rain in the next 5 days, these two factors will place the electricity system in a very critical situation, which will prompt the authorities to adopt extreme measures," the sources said.

Sources said that the current situation is "much more serious" than the one the country went through a few months ago, which forced the authorities to implement a program of alternating power outages.

The sources said that some of the measures include "the interruption of electricity to shop windows and advertising signs," and they even hinted that "it is very probable" that television broadcasts will be restricted.

Defense Minister Denies Nuclear Submarine Plans

PY1908005888 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2232 GMT 18 Aug 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 18 Aug (TELAM)—Today Defense Minister Jose Horacio Jaunarena denied that Argentina is manufacturing a nuclear submarine. He added that there is a great misunderstanding on the matter.

Jaunarena talked briefly with reporters at Government House after a meeting with President Alfonsin to discuss routine matters, as he said.

He added that some of those matters were of greater importance to his ministry, such as the budget implementation and plans to reorganize the Armed Forces, which are discussed on a weekly basis.

In answer to a question, the defense minister denied that Argentina is manufacturing a nuclear submarine. He said that there is a great misunderstanding on this matter: Most people do not fully understand what a nuclear submarine is.

When a submarine is mentioned, the propulsion system is actually what is in question, but the fact that a submarine is propelled by nuclear energy does not mean that it carries nuclear weapons. In the case of Argentina, no nuclear submarine is being built, Jaunarena said without giving further details.

Scientist Comments on Nuclear Program

PY1808165988 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 0248 GMT 18 Aug 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 17 Aug (DYN)—Today scientist Jose Federico Westerkamp reported the existence of cracks in the stainless steel container the reactor of the Atucha I nuclear plant. He also reiterated that Argentina "is in optimum condition to immediately put into operation" a submarine powered by atomic energy.

Westerkamp, special investigator of Conicet [National Council for Scientific and Technological Research] and professor of nuclear physics, said that cracks in Atucha I were detected during the administration of Eng Alberto Constantini. Last year Constantini resigned as CNEA president due to budget cuts in the organization.

In an interview published on the first page and inside the afternoon daily EL HERALDO, Westerkamp explained the need for a "debate by the entire society" about the "convenience of spending so much money" on nuclear plants which "provide only about 10 percent of the total energy consumed in the country."

He based his proposal of a debate on the fact that the Atucha II nuclear plant, "after it is concluded, will end up costing about $4 billion," and that 1 kilowatt in the fusion [as received] nuclear process will cost 5.8 cents in contrast to 1.7 cents for the same energy produced by a hydroelectric plant.

Westerkamp said that the cost study did not include "the general expenditures or the ecological consequences of a large nuclear accident, the system of protection, and the nuclear waste depot which will have to be implemented when the nuclear plants go out of service."

Regarding the controversial information that Argentina plans to build a nuclear submarine, which was categorically denied by the Defense Ministry and CNEA, Westerkamp said that he has "information, from reliable sources, which is the term used by reporters, that a compact motor run by atomic energy was tested in one of the submarines in the Domec Garcia shipyard."

He said that the information, which was later denied, is based on the "positive test" conducted in the plant of INVAP (Applied Research Institute, which is funded mainly by the CNEA) for making 10 to 30 megawatt small reactors, which "can be used perfectly well for running a submarine."

Communique Issued on Presence of Iraqi Plane

PY1908021088 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2148 GMT 18 Aug 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 18 Aug (TELAM)—In view of the arrival and stay in Argentine territory of an Iraqi cargo plane, which landed in Rosario airport, the Defense Ministry press office stated that the enterprises involved in production for defense have not signed any commercial agreement with that country, nor has any materiel produced by the military industry been provided to Iraq.

The official communique reads: In view of the increasing number of rumors being circulated and the inquiries being made by the media of the capital and the interior regarding the arrival and stay in Argentine territory of an Iraqi cargo plane, the Defense Ministry hereby states:

First: Enterprises involved in defense production have not signed any commercial agreements with Iraq.

Second: In this particular case no materiel produced by the military industry was delivered, as the press reports insist.

Third: The aircraft's presence was not in response to a request by the Argentine Government.

Fourth: The Air Traffic Directorate is drawing up a report on the event since it involved the presence of a foreign aircraft and crew members.

Bolivia

Planning Minister on Flexible Coca Agreement

PY1808041688 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 9 Aug 88 pp 1, 8

[Excerpts] Yesterday Planning Minister Gonzalo Sanchez de Lozada reported that the Bolivian Government will negotiate with the United States a "more flexible" agreement for coca crop eradication. This will be done within the context of the new "Special Regulations for Coca and Controlled Substances Bill."

The Bolivian Government has proposed to U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz that the new agreement be based on the following: the reduction by 50 percent of coca crops in coca regions, instead of the 70 percent demanded by the Reagan administration; the increase in technical aid to the Armed Forces; and more effective economic support.

Sanchez de Lozada made this statement when commenting on the 12-hour visit that Secretary of State Shultz paid to Bolivia, during which Bolivian and U.S. officials discussed regional and international issues, drug trafficking, and the economic situation.

The planning minister added that the two governments have agreed to establish working groups to draft this new agreement. He added: "It is hoped that the disbursement of credits will be more fluid than during the previous agreement so that Bolivia may cease to be a producer of narcotics."

Sanchez said that part of the technical mission that came with Shultz will remain in La Paz to help Bolivian authorities draft the new agreement, which "we hope will be implemented by September." [passage omitted]

Sanchez added it is hoped that after Shultz' visit, the struggle against drug trafficking will be more effective, particularly the eradication of coca crops.

According to the planning minister, as of today, Bolivia is facing the great challenge of achieving within 1 year's time the voluntary eradication of coca crops in areas other than the Yungas and Chapare regions. He added that after "this period, the eradication of coca crops will be mandatory."

Sanchez said the government hopes that peasants will voluntarily replace their coca crops within 1 year in areas such as Yapacani.

He added: "Once this stage is over, we shall attack those areas where there is an excess of coca production, such as Chapare and other regions where coca crops are traditionally farmed."

Sanchez said the government does not know the extent of the area that will be affected by the coca replacement program. He added that it will be up to the commissions established to determine the number of hectares involved in the coca eradication plan.

He said the area in question will be based on the area and the coca producing community. He said: "If a community has 100 hectares of coca crops, it will have to eradicate 70 percent of its coca crops to be able to receive any resources. But really we are requesting that crops to be eradicated by less than 50 percent." [passage omitted]

Sanchez also said that in those meetings between U.S. and Bolivian officials that he attended, the parties involved discussed issues pertaining to international politics. But he added that he did not know whether the Central American issue was disscused during the meeting between Shultz and Foreign Minister Bedregal.

Sanchez was answering journalists who had said that according to Latin American and Bolivian political and foreign policy experts, the objective of Shultz' Latin American tour was to sound out the opinion of Latin American governments regarding U.S. Central American policy.

Answering a question about his opinion on Central America, Sanchez said: "The 2-hour meeting that President Paz held with Shultz has been positive because during it they discussed several issues in detail and because Shultz is well informed on all international issues, such as the Middle East, Russia, and so forth."

About Central America he added: "This is a very complex issue. I cannot give my opinion about it because I believe there is a government policy of not meddling in foreign affairs and of rejecting any intervention."

Minister Duran on Antidrug Efforts, Debt

PY1808160388 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 18 Aug 88

[Text] Interior, Migration, and Justice Minister Juan Carlos Duran said Bolivia needs $360 million in order to comply with the 3-year antidrug plan that seeks to eradicate the drug problem. Minister Duran said that, through its zeal in fighting drug processing and trafficking, Bolivia has shown the world that it is willing to completely eradicate this evil.

Duran said the $360 million will be used in the next 3 years for three different purposes: drug control, regional development, and replacement of the coca plantations.

Duran said the Bolivian law governing the production and use of drugs is a great improvement in fighting the evil. He added that the antidrug plan has to comply with the terms of this law.

Regarding the U.S. debt with Bolivia, which amounts to nearly $70 million, Minister Duran said the U.S. assistant secretary for international narcotics matters and the U.S. secretary of state have expressed their government's intention of paying the total before 1 October 1988.

Duran denied the rumor that these funds were handed to the United Nations to be administered by the (?ZAC) in the project it has planned to implement in the Chapare region, which is similar to the project being implemented in (?Lojeta).

Coca Growers Reject Controlled Substances Law

PY1808215288 La Paz PRESNECIA in Spanish 13 Aug 88 p 3

[Text] Cochabamba, 12 Aug (PRESENCIA)—During their second national meeting, held in Cochabamba, the coca growers, who were called together by the Bolivian Labor Confederation (COB), unanimously rejected the new Law on Coca and Controlled Substances. The coca growers believe this law is unconstitutional and against their interests. Growers said the law was drafted on the basis of the 3-year antidrug plan and the project on controlled substances.

COB leaders; executive members of the Sole Confederation of Peasant Workers [Confederacion Unica de Trabajadores Campesinos]; representatives of the warm valleys [yungas] of La Paz Department; executive members of the four federations of the Chapare, Carrasco, Centrales Unidas, and Tiraque Provinces; and representatives of the peasant centers and labor unions of those regions took part in the debates of the second national meeting of coca growers, which ended last night.

The meeting approved a declaration stating that coca and all problems related to its production concern not only the coca growers, but all Bolivians. In this regard, the Sole Confederation of Peasant Workers and the COB were appointed official representatives of the people to discuss the problems related to coca with government organizations and international institutions.

The meeting rejected the new Law on Coca and Controlled Substances because it is designed to provide legal status to a toned down version of the 3-year antidrug plan. The declaration also requested the approval of the draft of the General Law on Coca, as an independent legal instrument, which is similar to the bill drafted by the coca growers.

It was agreed that no peasant should substitute a single coca plant without the conditions for consistent agricultural development, for the transformation of the agricultural sector, for regional development, and for economic reactivation.

The meeting ended with a proposal for continuous mobilization and the support of all Bolivian workers in defense of coca growers and the creation of a just law for coca production was requested.

Law Said Unconstitutional

PY1808153488 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0251 GMT 18 Aug 88

[Text] La Paz, 17 Aug (EFE)—Today a document containing the conclusions of the national meeting of Bolivian coca farmers was delivered to the press. In this document, the coca farmers say they will promote the creation of a "Latin American Front for the Defense of Coca" ["Frente Latinoamericano de Defensa de la Coca"].

According to the document, this organization will struggle against "attacks unleashed by U.S. imperialism" against coca producing countries, especially those located in the Andean region.

The document says that no Bolivian peasant will eradicate a single coca plant until the authorities provide the compensation they have offered. This decision will be in force as long as the Bolivian Government does not fulfill the programs of coca farm replacement, regional development, and economic reactivation.

Committees will be created to help coca farmers become aware of the situation and defend their rights, in view of the enforcement of the Law on Coca and Controlled Substances, which was recently promulgated by the Bolivian Government.

According to the peasants, this law is in direct opposition to the interests of approximately 70,000 families who are engaged in coca farming. The peasants describe the law as "unconstitutional" and have decided to fight it.

The law on coca envisages the elimination of 5,000 hectares of coca plantations; it is expected to eradicate 80 percent of the approximately 60,000 hectares of coca plantations believed to exist in the country. [all figures as received]

Coca growers demand compensation, programs for agricultural and industrial development, and stable markets and prices for their new products.

Minister Says COB Wage Hike Request 'Insane'

PY1808181688 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 13 Aug 88 p 1

[Excerpt] Yesterday Planning Minister Gonzalo Sanchez de Lozaday described the salary increase requested by the COB as "absolutely insane," adding that if congressmen reduce their salaries, workers should also do the same.

Sanchez de Lozada said: "It is absolutely insane and unacceptable that the COB is seeking an increase in workers wages by the same rate demanded by congressmen.

"Ironically, there are 135 congressmen and millions of workers, but this difference is insignificant," Sanchez de Lozada said.

He stated that if the workers demand is accepted, it is for sure that inflation will reach 5,000 percent by the end of 1988.

Gonzalo de Lozada added that if Congress approves the proposal made by some opposition deputies to increase salaries by 100 percent, the government will submit a proposal to Congress to double taxes.

Otherwise, "If congressmen reduce their salaries as they have announced, workers should also reduce their wages," he said. [passage omitted]

ADN Congressmen To Reduce Part of Salaries

PY1808170988 La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 13 Aug 88 p 3

[Excerpt] ADN national chief General Hugo Banzer Suarez has instructed his party's senators and deputies to reduce the salaries they receive for their parliamentary works.

This information has been reported by ADN Executive Secretary Antonio Ormachea Mendez, who added that his party's parliamentary brigade "will obey the instructions in an orderly way." He said the congressmen will ask the ADN boards [directivas] to return the difference between the salary which the Congress approved for them and the salaries received by the ministers of state—which are lower—to the budget areas that contribute to the institutional strengthening of the national Congress.

He said this will be their contribution for the improvement of the national democratic system. [passage omitted]

Interparliamentary Group With Brazil Created

PY1908011888 La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 14 Aug 88 p 1

[Text] The Bolivia-Brazil interparliamentary group, which was created during the visit of Brazilian President Jose Sarney to Bolivia, will seek to create ties between the Bolivian and Brazilian congresses and will allow the implementation of mutually advantageous plans.

This information was released by Brazilian Senator Adalberto Violand. The charter of the interparliamentary group, which was drafted by Brazilian Senator Adalberto Violand and by his Bolivian counterpart, Abel Ayoroa, proposes the following objectives:

1) In keeping with the will of the people represented and the Latin American values and ideals which are shared, joint action will be taken to help strengthen the traditional links of friendship between Brazil and Bolivia and to promote a closer approach and mutual understanding.

2) To strengthen mutual cooperation in all sectors, especially for a balanced commercial exchange, for industrial cooperation, in other areas of common interest, and for technical cooperation, which is essential for closing the gap that separates the industrialized countries from those of the Third World. To allow each country to promote its own technology, especially in the agricultural and mining sectors.

3) To supervise and promote, within their respective congressional jurisdictions, the timely implementation of the agreements signed during the historic visit of President Sarney to Bolivia, taking into account the importance of those agreements for the Brazilian-Bolivian relations.

4) To promote closer ties among border states and departments through more intense exchange. To defend and preserve the region's environment.

5) To implement joint actions to eradicate drug trafficking and consumption by coordinating the appropriate legislation.

6) Concerned about the extreme poverty of great sectors of the population, the members of the group express their firm determination to adopt measures that can help resolve this problem and thus improve the living conditions of the people.

Brazil

Itamaraty Criticizes New U.S. Trade Bill

PY1908000488 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 18 Aug 88

[Text] Itamaraty has criticized the new trade law that is awaiting approval by the U.S. Administrtion. The new law reportedly creates new and more rigid mechanisms to impose trade sanctions on countries such as Brazil. These sanctions are based on subjective rules.

This new law violates commitments made by the United States to other countries that are studying the liberalization of world trade through GATT. Itamaraty spokesman Rui Nogueira will give us further details on this matter.

[Begin Nogueira recording] The Brazilian Government is very much concerned about this report because the text approved by the U.S. Congress—it was formally adopted by the Senate on 3 August—makes U.S. protectionist measures even more rigid and allows the U.S. Administration to adopt very tough retaliatory measures against Brazilian exports. [end recording]

The new law will probably be signed on 3 September by President Ronald Reagan. This new law provides for retaliation that can no longer be vetoed by the U.S. president. The decision to retaliate will now be made only by White House trade office officials.

New Budget Cuts Announced; No Money for States
PY1908013088 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television 2300 GMT 18 Aug 88

[Excerpt] President Sarney has approved the draft of next year's budget and warned that the government will not have money for states and municipalities. An overall cut of 22 percent will be implemented, and ministries will not be allowed to spend more than revenues.

This morning the president called a meeting of cabinet ministers and political leaders at the Planalto Palace. He asked them to make a joint effort to reduce the fiscal deficit. The president added that the new spending cuts are necessary to compensate for revenues lost by dispositions of the new Constitution.

[Begin Sarney recording, in progress] ...as the new Constitution establishes. It is the government's duty to be ready to fulfill its dispositions effectively. The loss of revenues as a consequence of new dispositions to the Constitution will be on the order of 17.6 percent in 1989, increasing to 22 percent in the following years. The proposed budget must consider that and reduce spending by that percentage. The federal government will not have any additional resources left for allocations to the states or municipalities or for emergencies. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Assembly Approves Unrestricted Right To Strike
PY1808170288 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 17 Aug 88 p 1

[Text] Yesterday the Constituent Assembly approved the unrestricted right to strike, including those people working for essential services. The Assembly also determined that the law will ensure that society will be looked after during the strikes. In one of the most polemic votes of the Constituent Assembly, the plenum established that it will be the workers who will decide the motive of strikes and when they will take place. Strikes can also be of a political nature. The PT believes this is a great victory for the workers.

The Constituent Assembly has also decided to maintain the right to vote on a voluntary basis for young people between the ages of 16 and 18. Moreover, the new voters will only be able to start voting in the 15 November municipal elections if the election calendar is altered because the period for registering as a voter ended on 6 August. This article ws fiercely defended by Senator Afonso Arinos (PSDB-RJ) [Brazilian Social Party-Rio de Janeiro State].

Portugal's Soares on Economic Situation
PY1808040488 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 16 Aug 88 p 32

[Text] Brasilia—Although Portugal's President Mario Soares considers the Brazilian economic situation critical, he proposes special treatment for the country, "a great nation," by the international financial community. "This is because Brazil has great potential and the Brazilians have sufficient capacity to overcome the crisis," he said. During his visit to Brasilia on Friday to have dinner with President Jose Sarney at the Alvorada Palace, Soares granted an exclusive interview to ESTADO to discuss the main aspects of Brazilian-Portuguese relations.

"I know the situation is very serious, that there is runaway inflation and general dissatisfaction. But I believe in the Brazilians' capacity to overcome this critical situation," Soares stated while giving his opinion on the current domestic economic policy. He expressed concern over the fact that the economic crisis can smother the democratic transition, not only in Brazil but throughout Latin America. "But I believe things have been channeled correctly now," he said. In foreign matters, Soares feels that Brazil has performed brilliantly in resuming the renegotiation of its debt with international creditor banks. He stated: "This performance has had the best possible impact on the international community." He said that always, "even in the most difficult moments," he has joyfully defended Brazil's positions in all international forums. "I think Brazil is a great country, not only in Latin America, but at the world level as well. Therefore, I have always asked, whether at the IMF or the IBRD, at the financial institutions or the European Parliament, that Brazil should be given special treatment. This country's wealth is so great that its problems, regardless of how big they may be, can be overcome."

Soares feels that as a member of the EEC, Portugal can do a lot for Latin America. "When Portugal joined the EEC in 1986, it made trade relations with other countries dynamic, seeking more creative and more original solutions to the foreign debt problem that, among other effects, smothers the democratization process and the development of Latin American countries."

Regarding the Brazilian business sector's interest in having access to the Portuguese market, which has been joined to the EEC, Soares feels that the interest is, in fact, reciprocal. He said: "Both Brazilian and Portuguese

businessmen have expressed their desire to increase trade. This is a very positive attitude that will extend to other areas, where relations are also dynamic, such as the cultural sector."

The Portuguese president then allayed the concerns of Brazilians living in Portugal about their fate after the total integration of the European market in 1992. He said: "Brazilians living in Portugal will have the same rights as European citizens because they will have Portuguese citizenship. Since this is an acquired right, it is not true that some European countries will not accept it. We are going to do everything possible to guarantee this for all Brazilians, I promise."

Chile

Pinochet Comments on 'Consensus Candidate'

PY1808183788 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 18 Aug 88

[Text] Last night President Augusto Pinochet arrived from Punta Arenas, and from the airport he went to the Chile stadium. We certainly have a great statesman who is concerned about everything.

Pinochet said that the country will not accept any type of organization telling us about a consensus candidate because that is not what they want. What they want is to install their own candidate who will have to obey them, and that will not happen. This is how Pinochet referred to the recent remarks made by certain bishops.

Pinochet addressed a large rally held by Chilean women in the Chile stadium in Santiago.

Pinochet went to the stadium after returning from a tour of the twelfth region. His presence in the stadium took the crowd by surprise, and the thousands of women there applauded him for several minutes. Pinochet referred to the upcoming plebiscite and the idea of a consesnsus candidate:

[Begin recording] We are not going to accept any type of organization telling us about a consensus candidate because that is not what we want. [applause] That organization wants to install their own candidate who will have to obey them, and that will not. happen [applause] Nowadays, Chilean women know what they want for their families, children, and husbands. [end recording]

Pinochet went on to say that women must struggle for the yes vote to win in the upcoming plebiscite, which he said will be held in the first few days of October. He added that the same old politicians of the past have recently come out, and that they will not be allowed to do what they did in the past; that is, to destroy the nation.

Pinochet Suspends Activities Because of Flu

PY1808185688 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 18 Aug 88

[By Eliana Enriquez from Government House]

[Excerpt] President Augusto Pinochet has suspended his activites for today as well as a 2-day visit to the eighth region, scheduled for tomorrow, because he has the flu.

This information was supplied by the presidential press secretariat.

The head of state was scheduled to visit the eighth region in order to preside over the ceremonies scheduled to mark the birthdate of Bernardo O'Higgins and to meet with local miners.

It was reported that despite the flu, General Pinochet will continue reviewing matters that require his attention at this residence. [passage omitted]

Government 'Regret' at Ziaul Haq's Death

PY1808184688 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 16 Aug 88

[Excertp] Today Foreign Minister Ricardo Garcia sent a telegram to his Pakistani counterpart expressing condolences over the tragic death of the Pakistani president, who died when his plane on exploded on 17 August. The telegram states:

May Your Excellency receive the expression of our deepest regret over the tragic death of His Excellency General Mohammed Ziaul Haq, the president of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan.

The Foreign Ministry has instructed Chilean Ambassador to Pakistan Sergio Sanchez Luna to attend the funeral and convey condolences to the appropriate government officials.

Through a decree issued by the Interior Ministry, the Chilean Government ordered a day of national mourning all over Chilean territory on 19 August. Accordingly, the flags in public buildings will be at half mast to honor the late president. This measure is justified because Chile maintains diplomatic relations with Pakistan. [passage omitted]

CNT Rejects Court Ruling on Union Leaders

PY1908032288 Santiago Radio Chilena in Spanish 2300 GMT 18 Aug 88

[Excerpt] I am here, ILO Director in Chile [title as heard] (Klaus Mohl) said when explaining his presence at the press conference held by the National Workers Command, CNT, to reject the Supreme Court ruling by which two union leaders were banished and another was imprisoned.

[Begin (Mohl) recording] As you know, the ILO is a 3-party organization in which the government, the workers, and the employers have the same voting rights. It is therefore normal that an ILO representative be here with the workers, and that is the meaning of my presence here now. (?That is all I have to say). [end recording]

The CNT leaders interpreted the ILO representative's presence here as the organization's support for the union leaders who were sentenced by the court.

Manuel Bustos and Alfredo Martinez will be banished for a year and a half to Parral and Chanaral respectively. Meanwhile Moises Labrana will be imprisoned for 61 days.

CNT Secretary General Arturo Martinez considers the CNT as dissolved because the CUT [Sole Central Worker's Union] will be created next week. He said Manuel Bustos has been an excellent CNT president. [passage omitted]

PRC's Zhu Qizhen Tours Smelting Plant

PY1908030088 Santiago Television Nacional de Chile Network in Spanish 0030 GMT 19 Aug 88

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Today PRC Vice Foreign Minister Zhu Qizhen toured the Ventanas Smelting Plant, which is under the jurisdiction of ENAMI [National Mining Enterprise]. Zhu Qizhen toured the plant with General Sergio Perez Hormazabal, ENAMI executive vice chairman.

[Begin Hormazabal recording] In 1987, the Ventanas smelting plant surpassed its own production record by producing a total of 200,156 metric tons of electrolytic refined copper.

ENAMI managers from the Ventanas smelting plant and the Paipote smelting plant have assured me that this record will be surpassed this year, too.

The PRC and Chile have established a cooperation program in this area. In November, four Chinese technicians will visit Chile.

The PRC is interested in establishing joint ventures with ENAMI in keeping with the laws in force.

Within this cooperative program Chile will contribute its geological experience and its mineral resources. [end recording]

Zhu Qizhen said he is impressed with the modern production process used by ENAMI. He added that the PRC will strengthen bilateral relations in several sectors. [passage omitted]

91 Detained at Anti-Pinochet 'Lighting' Rally

PY1908010288 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 18 Aug 88

[Excerpt] The Carabineros have reported that a total of 91 people were arrested during the 24-hour visit of General Augusto Pinochet to the Magallanes region. Most of the detainees were staging lighting rallies in the downtown area of Punta Arenas, protesting the head of state's presence in this city.

Only one of the people detained by the Carabineros was placed at the disposal of the military prosecutor's office. The detainee's name is Orlando Salas Alvarado. He was charged with mistreating a Carabinero. However, eyewitness reports indicate that the Carabineros actually mistreated Salas. [passage omitted]

Venezuela

'Campaign' To Destabilize Ties With Colombia

PA1808152988 Caracas Venezolana de Television Canal 8 in Spanish 0000 GMT 18 Aug 88

[Text] Today the Venezuelan and Colombian Foreign Ministries initiated an exchange of information to deal with the campaign which is creating friction between the two countries.

The charge, made yesterday, exclusively on this program by Venezuelan Foreign Minister German Nava Carrillo, is that the campaign is aimed at magnifying the incidents that have occurred along the border, regardless of their insignificance. Today Nava Carrillo and Defense Minister General Italo del Valle insisted on the need to analyze the problem to prevent not only misunderstandings, but also the distortion of facts that are often insignificant.

Nava Carrillo said both countries are concerned because the campaign is being promoted by drug traffickers, smugglers, and subversives, who have been hit hard by the Venezuelan security organizations.

[Begin Nava Carrillo recording] Both countries have always been interested in maintaining not only normal relations, but also cooperation. We concede that the border is a very dynamic area, almost like a different world compared to other areas of either country. We are interested in converting the border into an area of exchange, an area of relations, and not an area of conflict. [end recording]

The defense minister supported the foreign minister's charges and asked the social communications media to be very prudent in reporting information that might distort the facts. In the meantime, the Jose Antonio Paez Fort at the border will continue the operations considered necessary to protect our sovereignty, the defense minister said.

In any case, Foreign Ministry experts are constantly evaluating relations with Colombia. The important thing is to determine priorities in the next few days to face what has been labeled at the Venezuelan Foreign Ministry as a campaign to destabilize the relations between the two countries.

Suriname

Sedoc Denies Army Ordered To Wipe Out Rebels

FL1808153188 Hilversum International Service in English 1030 GMT 18 Aug 88

[Text] The Surinamese foreign minister, Edwin Sedoc, has said in Brazil that the conflict with the jungle rebels led by Ronny Brunswijk can only be solved by peaceful means. At a news conference in Brasilia, Mr Sedoc denied that his government had instructed the Army to wipe out the Brunswijk rebels. He added, however, that Suriname is concerned that Brunswijk is using French Guiana as a home base and that there are French and Dutch nationals fighting alongside the rebels.

The governments of The Hague and Paris have been informed about Suriname's concern.

France Requests Body of Soldier Killed in Clash

FL1808175688 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 18 Aug 88

[Text] France has asked the Surinamese Government to carry the body of the French soldier, Alexis Drezaton, to his native country.

Drezaton, who has fought together with the terrorist gang of Brunswijk, died some weeks ago during a clash with soldiers of the national Army in east Suriname. In his possession, documents were found from which it has been clear that he was in active service of the French Army.

According to a spokesman of the French Government in Suriname, the Surinamese Government has not yet reacted on the request.

Police Arrest 2 People for Smuggling Weapons

FL1808181888 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 18 Aug 88

[Text] Last Thursday, police have arrested two persons with the property of automatic weapons and ammunition. The men were arrested on the Suriname River. After questioning the weapons smugglers, the police have found out that a second boat with weapons has been brought in. The name of the smugglers of the second boat (?have been) announced and the police are calling for their arrest.

The weapons are suspected to have come from French Guiana. The police have not given any information on the amount of weapons and ammunition which have been uncovered.

Ex-Netherlands Antilles Prime Minister Arrives

FL1808182688 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 18 Aug

[Text] Ex-prime minister of the Dutch Antilles, Don Martina, has this morning paid a formal visit to Vice President Henk Arron. Last Saturday, Martina arrived in Suriname on a 2-week private visit.

Government spokesman (Glen Troyderman) told our newsroom this morning that the visit of Don Martina to the vice president must be seen in the light of the good relations between both politicians.

Don Martina will also pay a formal visit to Foreign Minister Eddy Sedoc.

Jusice Minister Inaugurates New Prison Complex

FL1808185988 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 18 Aug 88

[Text] Yesterday morning Minister of Justice and Police Adjodhia officially opened a new prison complex in Paramaribo for women.

The project, which started in April 1986, was funded by the former Ministry of Army and Police in cooperation with the Lions Club and the Datsun car company.

Police Commander (Santokhi) yesterday said at the opening that the new prison complex for women means a decrease in the pressure on the police. Women suspects were formally put in interrogation and waiting rooms which needed extra security.

The building of the prison, which lasted for about 2 years, cost about 270,000 guilders. The prison has 10 cells which can accommodate the maximum of 40 women.